



## Ecosystem Protections Working Group

### *Meeting Minutes*

**Date:** 08/17/2011

**Start Time:** 2:00pm

**End Time:** 3:25pm

**Meeting Method:** Conference Call, Go-To Meeting

**Attendance:** Adam Pack (Co-Chair, call lead), Lisa White, Jack Kittinger (Co-Chair, call lead), Take Tomson, Rachel Sprague, Sarah Mesnick, Joe Paulin, Brenda Asuncion, Jean Souza, Kanani Frazier, Malia Chow, Jon Martinez  
Public: Heide Weber

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- I. Meeting opening – role call
- II. Workshop Planning – POSTPONED. Not the right time for workshop because: goal was to get EPWG together with NHWG to develop hybrid recommendations of 2 knowledge sets, timing is too short, some key players are not able to attend

Malia encourages working group to hold the workshop to incorporate scientific/technical experts in to the process, it will be good to get face to face time over 2 days, and the funding is only here until the end of September.

It is an excellent opportunity to host a workshop, but an alternative way to get technical expert input would be to reach out to folks one on one.  
Other alternatives: open house, afternoon meeting then happy hour but less work than entire workshop

Any meeting is work. The main concerns are: turnaround time too tight, brunt of work will fall on Sarah M, time constraints on Co-Chairs, it will be too rushed

Sarah M is willing to organize workshop, if purpose is well thought-out.

The group should consult with technical experts before conducting a full workshop anyway

Brenda noted that as of Wed. am Kehau may be able to make Sept 12-13 dates.



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Sarah and Kehau (and Jack?) are meeting Thursday 8/18 to discuss WG partnership moving forward.

1. Review Workshop Purpose – Skipped, group decided to move forward with one on one questions for experts.
2. Review Workshop Participant List

#### Technical Experts:

Carlos Andrade (Native Hawaiian Traditional Management) – *query later in process, consult w Kehau*

Rob Toonen (HIMB, Ecological Connectivity)

Alan Friedlander (UH Fisheries Coop Unit, Reef Fisheries Ecology)

Paul Jokiel (HIMB, Coral Reef ecology)

Bob Richmond (UH Kewalo Marine Lab, Coral Reef ecology)

Frank Parrish – HAMER and status reports of protected species (also Erin Oleson or Amanda Bradford, NMFS (marine mammals / population dynamics)

-Robin Baird

Someone from the fish side of the NMFS house for status of fish stocks

Jeff Polovino (or other oceanographer), NMFS

Bryan Costa – Biogeographic assessment of the HI islands

-Chris Caldo – biogeo

Stuart Allen – social considerations in CAMEO

Stuart Sandin – ecological considerations in CAMEO

-Jennifer Smith

-Celia Smith – algal biologist

-Megan Dailer – algal biologist

(- were added during call discussion)

Add Robin Baird (marine mammal species), Jennifer Smith (CAMEO), Chris Caldo, algal experts

What's value for reaching out to other experts? It depends on the objective. The original objective was to marry western and Hawaiian knowledge, but has now shifted to just western science information collection.

Critical to the list are: Rob Toonen – experts on connectivity

Have mammal experts on the working group, recommended that the list focus on other species.

Need to include experts on broader field (eg Frank Parrish). Keep experts with broad concept work and large datasets that would inform a community mapping project (e.g. monitoring-add site, do fine scale in a certain site)



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It will be good to solicit information individually to establish outreach/connection for scientific advisors that might advise Sanctuary over the long-term.  
Toonen (connectivity), Freidlander (MPA design), Jokiel (monitor corals, large dataset)

Could add a CRED person that does RAMP cruises.

Experts will draw recommendations from published data that offers management implications (e.g. Toonen will suggest manage each island separately)

Discussion on Questions for Experts:

Experts should be approached 1 on 1 and asked to elaborate on how their data informs management.

The Climate Change WG developed a set of questions to ask experts for recommendations and information directly.

What would the experts recommend for ecosystem-based Sanctuary?

Three question types for the experts: What does their background/research tell management?

What do they think about the Sanctuary going down the ecosystem path?

What would the future role of the Sanctuary be?

Formation of this WG to answer: What does it mean if Sanctuary goes ecosystem? What cultural considerations need to be considered? What's the role of the Sanctuary? (e.g. facilitation)

Since Sanctuary has said they are going ecosystem what is role of this WG?  
How to implement ecosystem?

To make recommendations on the role of the Sanctuary if an ecosystem approach is adopted.

Need to ask experts: Based on your research how would you implement that information into a management plan? How do you do ecosystem management based on each person's expertise. If you were in our seat, how would you implement what you know into a management recommendation?

Example of managing islands separate is a tangible management recommendation that would inform this WG's report.

Friedlander advice would be that existing no take areas are too small, rotating no takes not well-designed.



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Jack, Adam, Sarah can draft template of survey for the experts. Top 5 recommendations if you were in our seat. References to support if they like, but get them to avoid pointing to pdfs. Let them review WG recommendation report before submitting it to the SAC.

Add Top 3 or 4 gaps in their area of study. What types of additional research needs to happen?

What they see as the role of the Sanctuary?

The role is to manage a protected area. Don't ask of the experts; that's for the Sanctuary to determine.

Re-phrase to what conservation gaps needed to be filled?

That's a big question. Huge gaps in education, implementation, etc.

Where would the Sanctuary be best suited to filling gaps.

Questions for experts should be kept to science. Management recommendations (5) and scientific information gaps (3) based on their research. Then WG considers the larger questions of the role of Sanctuary and how to implement recommendations from experts.

Ask experts to recommend other researchers to speak with.

If Sanctuary were to move boundaries what scientific criteria would that be based on?

No need to add boundaries question now, will vary largely by person's field. Boundary changes down the road. Keep simple to hope for longer answers from experts.

How to get input from Native Hawaiian experts: For NH experts include later in the process once recommendations formed for them to comment on. Consult with Kehau once questions developed to see how to best incorporate their expertise.

Based on your research and the best available science in your field what are the top 5 management recommendations that you have?

How do we take what you have discovered in your research in to consideration to implement it in an ecosystem-based Sanctuary?

Questions maybe to loaded, should we generalize to how would you improve ocean health?



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- These experts have all researched ecosystem-based management and promoting. They will be excited to get their science out of academic realm and into management.
- But that's the problem, there's no option to offer any other alternative.
- But WG nearing informal consensus that going EBM. SAC, NOP, Public Comments are largely support EBM. And Sanctuary publicly stated EBM.
- WG should address the other 2 management alternatives with experts.
- HWWG will be evaluating status quo.
- Use the experts to get their input on just EBM, because if ask about species-specific expands beyond animal and habitat to food web so it's ecosystem driven, too.
- WG itself can evaluate the 3 alternatives. EBM is more complex and needs to incorporate outside opinions.

Internally evaluate status quo and additional species if there's information WG need WG will seek outside input.

#### 3. Review Workshop Agenda – POSTPONE workshop

#### IV. Agenda items for next call

- Discuss information needed to evaluate additional species management alternative
- Updates from Sarah M. on technical expert outreach

#### III. Public Comment (TBD) – Oahu 1 public – no comment Other offices – no comment

**ACTION ITEM:** Questions for scientific technical experts (Adam, Jack, Sarah);  
email names for additional experts to Sarah M;  
Sarah will help draft email with background information to contact experts;  
Jon will email Sarah M email addresses for technical experts;  
Sarah M will implement email/phone/face to face contact of experts;  
Sarah M will expand draft document on EBM justification from Jack

**Next meeting:** 08/30/2011 at 2:00pm